**Electrification of track from Itarsi to Nagpur**

2505. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the whole of the railway track from Itarsi to Nagpur and Nagpur to Bhusawal have been electrified;

(b) if not, what part is remaining to be electrified as at present;

(c) whether the work of laying the double track from Nagpur to Itarsi has been completed;

(d) if not, by when this work would be completed; and

(e) what are the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

**Narrow Gauge lines in Maharashtra**

2506. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many kilometer of narrow gauge lines exist in Maharashtra;

(b) by when these lines would be converted into broad gauge;

(c) what are the reasons of delay in such conversion;

(d) how much money would be required to convert these lines; and

(e) by when the work of conversion would begin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) 1100 kms.

(b) The following narrow gauge lines have been approved for conversion into broad gauge in Maharashtra:—

| Narrow Gauge lines | Target |
|---|---|
| i Daund-Baramati (42 kms) | 1993-94 |
| ii Gondia-Chanda Fort (248 kms) | Gondia-Wadsa (105 kms) 1993-94; wadsa-Chanda Fort (143 kms) 1996-97 |
| iii Miraj-latur (326 kms) | Work will be taken up after Planning Commission's approval is received |

(c) Railways have drawn up an Action Plan for conversion of 6898 kms. of MG/NG lines into BG during the Eighth Five Year Plan, as a first step towards Uni-gauge on the Indian Railways. As a result of this plan, speed of ongoing gauge conversion works in Maharashtra has been accelerated, rather than delayed.

(d) About Rs. 1,000 crores.

(e) Conversion of NG lines into BG in Mahartshtra has already been taken up under Project Uni-gauge.

**Railway Stations on Narkhed Amravati Rail line**

2507. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the Railway stations proposed to be constructed on the Narkhed Amravati Rail line;

(b) whether Government have received any demand from villages far constructing railway stations;

(c) by when the decision on this is likely to be taken; and

(d) what is the criteria for fixing Railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) The following stations are proposed to be provided on Narkhed-Amravati line:—

(i) Narkhed (ii) Mouwad (iii) Pulsa (iv) Vinoda (v) Hiwarkhed (vi) Pala (vii) Morsi (viii) Astgaon (ix) Kolvihar (x) Chandur Bazar (xi) Shirala (xii) Walgaon (xiii) Amravati Road (xiv) Badnera.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Stations are located either close to population centres/industrial areas for catering to the traffic requirements of such places, or at operationally required points for crossing of trains etc.

**Expansion of Narkhed Railway station**

2508. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Narkhed Railway Station would be upgraded and expanded, keeping in view the new Narkhed Amravati Rail line;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) how much money is sanctioned for this purpose; and

(d) the details of other stations on this line which would be upgraded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It will become a Junction station with all necessary infrastructure required for the purpose.

(c) It is a part of the new line project. There is no separate sanction.

(d) Upgradation of wayside stations are done on existing rail lines and not on proposed new lines.

**Tri Weekly Rajdhani Express via Patna**

2509. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Ministry has any proposal of running tri weekly the Rajdhani Express via Patna in place of bi-weekly as at present;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) to (c) A weekly Rajdhani Express between New Delhi and Guwahati is proposed to be introduced in July '94 Time Table. Thereafter Rajdhani service between New Delhi and Patna will be available thrice a week.

**Purchase of Old Flat wagons from Spain**

2510. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to scrap plans to buy 500 old container flat wagons from Spain for Container Corporation of India;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what are the reasons for not making attempts for the development and manufacture of this type of wagons in India by the Railways units at Bangalore or elsewhere; and

(d) in what manner it is proposed to go ahead with the purchase from abroad instead of undertaking manufacture in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Indigenous capability already exists and the proposal will be